

Deadbeat Controller based Transformerless Inverter for Grid Tied PV System with Reactive Power Control

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Abstract—This paper presents a single phase transformerless inverter for grid-tied PV system with reactive power control. Inverters with transformers of the conventional type, which connected in PV grid-tied systems are being replaced by transformerless inverters due to various reasons such as reduction in size, weight and cost, improvement in efficiency etc. Transformerless inverters cause a number of technical problems in grid-connected PV systems, among which flow of leakage currents is a major problem. This leakage current that flows between the parasitic capacitance of PV array and the grid has to be eliminated, may otherwise leads to major safety problems. However, one of the technical challenges of the transformerless inverter is the safety issue of leakage current. In addition, according to the international regulations, transformerless inverter should be capable of handling a certain amount of reactive power. Here, a new transformerless inverter for grid-tied PV system is proposed which can eliminate the threat of leakage current. The proposed topology also have the ability to inject reactive power into the utility grid. Besides a maximum power point tracker (MPPT) using the P & O algorithm in the system ensures optimal power of the PV array in use. A PR controller and a dead-beat current controller are used to ensure high quality injected current to the grid. Detailed analysis of proposed transformerless inverter with operation modes, commonmode leakage current analysis and reactive power control capability in MATLAB simulation model are presented.

Keywords— Grid connected photovoltaic systems, MPPT, transformerless inverter, parasitic capacitance, common mode voltage, leakage current, Dead beat current control.

1. INTRODUCTION

Photovoltaic inverters become widespread within both private and commercial circles. These grid-connected inverters convert the available direct currents supplied by the PV panels and feed it into the utility grid [1]. There are two main topology groups used in the case of grid-connected PV systems, namely, with and without galvanic isolation [2]. Galvanic isolation can be on the dc side in the form of a high-frequency dc-dc transformer or on the grid side in the form of a big bulky ac transformer. Both of these solutions offer the safety and advantage of galvanic isolation, but the efficiency of the whole system is decreased due to power losses in these extra components. In case the transformer is omitted, the efficiency of the PV system can be increased with an extra 1%–2%.

Single phase-PV grid connected systems present suitable solution for small PV system installations. The PV generates direct voltage; thus, it requires a converter to convert into a

voltage of corresponding amplitude at main frequency for feeding it into utility grid. However, the problem can arise because of the hazardous voltage that can be avoided by providing galvanic isolation between the PV module and the grid through a transformer [3,4]. Nevertheless, the use of a transformer leads to additional drawbacks such as less efficiency, bulky, more expensive and less durability. In order to overcome these drawbacks, transformerless inverter has been introduced which has the benefits such as lower cost, higher efficiency, smaller size and weight [3,5]. Owing to the missing galvanic separation, large voltage fluctuation both at main frequency and high frequency that depends on the topology structure and control scheme, resulted in leakage current flow from the PV module to the system through the inevitable parasitic capacitance with respect to ground potential [6]. This ground leakage current increases the grid current harmonics and system losses and also creates a strong conducted and radiated electromagnetic interference [7,8].

Transformerless PV inverters use different solutions to minimize the leakage ground current and improve the efficiency of the whole system [9,10]. The PV array parasitic capacitance between the PV array and the ground causes leakage current to flow. Many PV inverter topologies with different switching strategies have been proposed to mitigate the problem of common-mode voltage (CMV) and ground leakage current.

An important aspect related to the photovoltaic system connected to the electric grid is that it can operate the double functions of active power generator and reactive power compensator. The proper power factor is selected according to active power and reactive power that the grid demands.

Two current controllers are developed for this single phase grid tied transformerless inverter: The PR current controller and the deadbeat current controller. The current controller takes care of the quality of current injected into the grid and the power exchange between the system and grid.

Proportional + Resonant (PR) current controller which maintains the current injected by the inverter into grid in phase with the grid voltage so that unity power factor can be achieved. A harmonic compensator (HC) is cascaded with PR controller to mitigate low order odd harmonic components present in the output current of VSI and minimize the total harmonic distortion (THD). In stationary or α - β frame control structure the control variables are time varying. The Proportional Resonant (PR) controllers fall under the category

of stationary frame controllers are simple to design and has excellent reference signal tracking capabilities. The PR controllers can achieve very high gain at resonant frequency thus reducing the steady state error to zero [11-13]. Moreover harmonic compensators can be used to mitigate low order harmonic without influencing behavior of the current controller. Hence they are superior than PI controllers in terms of eliminating steady state errors and harmonic current rejection. A deadbeat current controller is also implemented for single phase PV grid connected inverters. They used a control method based on a discrete-time model of the system in order to produce the inverter voltage for good tracking of the current reference.

To synchronize the photovoltaic system output and the AC grid a PLL (phase-locked loop) was implemented. An L filter or LCL filter is usually placed between the inverter and the grid to attenuate the switching frequency harmonics produced by the grid-connected inverter. Compared with L filter, LCL filter has better attenuation capacity of high-order harmonics and better dynamic characteristic [14,15]. MPPT controller is designed to estimate the output voltage and current from the PV array and extract maximum power from the source.

In this paper, a new transformerless inverter topology for grid tied PV system is developed. In Section II, proposed PV transformerless inverter topology is presented. In Section III, Common-mode voltage and leakage current analysis in transformerless PV Inverter is shown. In Section IV, the control methods of the proposed topology are described. Section V presents the simulation results of proposed topologies with real and reactive power control using PR controller and Deadbeat controller.

II. PROPOSED PV TRANSFORMERLESS INVERTER TOPOLOGY

The proposed transformerless PV inverter, which is composed of six MOSFETs switches (S1–S6), six diodes (D1–D6), and inductors $L1$ and $L2$ as shown in Fig.1. The diodes D1–D4 perform voltage clamping functions for active switches S1–S4. The ac-side switch pairs are composed of S5, D5 and S6, D6, respectively, which provide unidirectional current flow branches during the freewheeling phases decoupling the grid from the PV array and minimizing the CM leakage current.

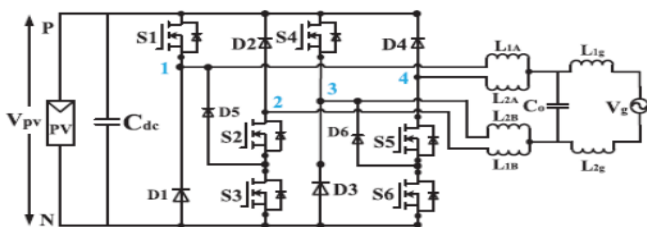


Fig. 1. Proposed transformerless inverter

Fig. 2 shows the gate drive signal for the proposed circuit structure. It can be seen that a phase shift is occurred between the voltage and current. The proposed transformerless inverter operates in four stages within a grid period.

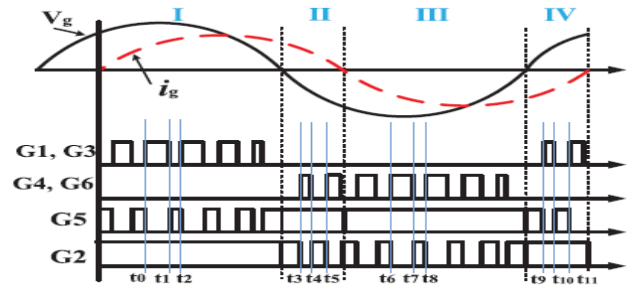


Fig.2 Gate signal of proposed transformerless inverter

Stage 1: This is the positive power region in the positive half-cycle of grid current. In this stage, S2 is always on, whereas S1 and S3 synchronously and S5 complementary commutate with switching frequency. The generated output voltage are +VPV and 0.

Stage 2: This is negative power region in positive half-cycle of the grid current. In this stage, the inverter output voltage is negative but the current remains positive. The generated output voltage are -VPV and 0.

III. LEAKAGE CURRENT ANALYSIS FOR THE PROPOSED TRANSFORMERLESS INVERTER

A galvanic connection between the ground of the grid and the PV array exists in transformerless grid-connected PV systems. Large ground leakage currents may appear due to the high stray capacitance between the PV array and the ground. To analyze the ground loop leakage current, Figure shows a model with the phase output points 1, 2, 3, and 4 modeled as controlled voltage sources connected to the negative terminal of the dc bus.

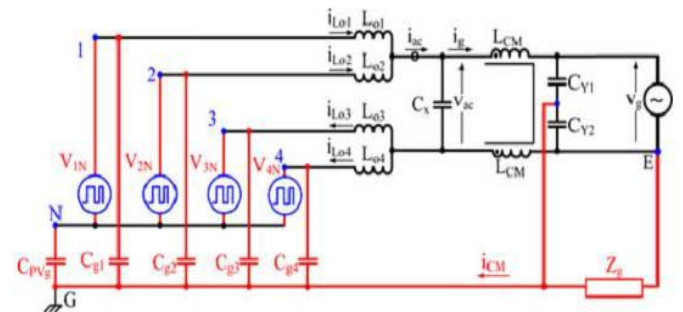


Fig.3 Leakage current analysis model

Fig.3 clearly shows the elements that influencing the ground leakage current, which include:

- 1) The stray capacitance between PV array and ground C_{PVg} ;
- 2) Stray capacitances between the inverter devices and the ground $C_{g1} - C_{g4}$ and
- 3) The series impedance between the ground connection points of the inverter and the grid Z_g .

The differential-mode (DM) filter capacitor C_x and the filter components L_{CM} , C_{Y1} , and C_{Y2} are also shown in the model. The value of stray capacitances C_{g1} , C_{g2} , C_{g3} , and C_{g4} of MOSFETs is low compared with that of C_{PVg} , therefore the influence of these capacitors on leakage current can be neglected. It is also noticed that the DM capacitor C_x does not affect the CM leakage current. Hence

the controlled voltage sources V_{2N} and V_{4N} are equal to zero and can be removed.

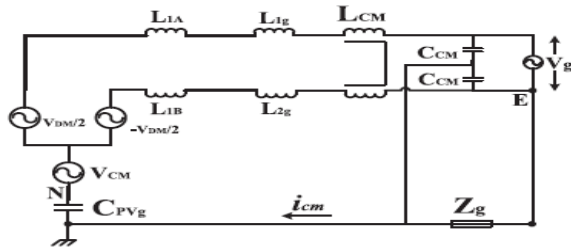


Fig.4 Simplified CM Leakage current analysis for positive half cycle

A simplified CM leakage current analysis for the positive half-line cycle is presented in fig.4. a single-loop mode applicable to the CM leakage current analysis for the positive half-line cycle of the proposed transformerless inverter is obtained.

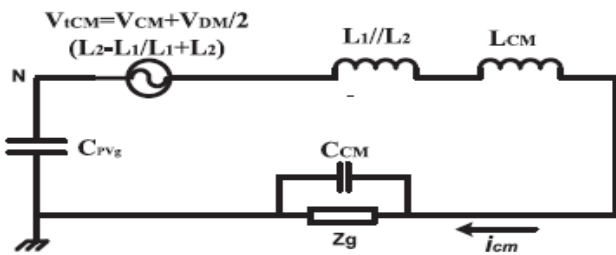


Fig.5 Simplified single loop CM model

Common mode voltage,

$$V_{CM} = \frac{V_{1N} + V_{3N}}{2} \quad (1)$$

Differential mode voltage,

$$V_{DM} = V_{1N} - V_{3N} \quad (2)$$

Total common mode voltage,

$$V_{tCM} = \frac{V_{dc}}{2} \quad (3)$$

It is clear that if the total CM voltage V_{tCM} keeps constant, no CM current flows through the converter. For a well designed circuit with symmetrically structured, normally L_{01} is equal to L_{03} . During the active stage of the positive half-line cycle, V_{1N} is equal to V_{dc} , while V_{3N} is equal to 0. Similarly, during the whole negative half-line cycle, the CM leakage current mode is exactly the same as the one during the positive half-line cycle; the only difference is the activation of different devices. The total CM voltage in negative half cycle is also equal to $V_{dc}/2$.

IV CONTROLLER DESIGN FOR SINGLE PHASE GRID TIED TRANSFORMERLESS INVERTER

Two controllers are developed for the single phase grid tied inverter: the PR controller and the deadbeat controller. The current controller takes care of the quality of current injected into the grid and the power exchange between the system and grid. $I_{g\alpha}^{ref}$ which is in phase with the grid voltage controls the real power of the system and the orthogonal component $I_{g\beta}^{ref}$ controls the reactive power exchange of the system with the grid. Hence a decoupled control of real and reactive power can be achieved.

A. Proportional Resonant Current Controller

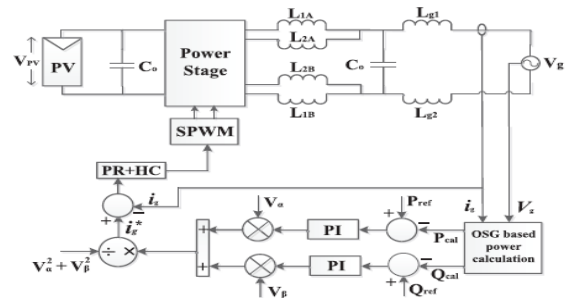


Fig.6. Block diagram of control of proposed system with PI controller

The PR controller is used in the stationary frame unlike the PI controller. The computation sequence of the PR controller is not complex because there is no transformation from the stationary frame to synchronous frame. For these reasons, a low-cost processor can be used. In addition, when grid unbalance or a sensing error occurs, the PR controller is more robust than the PI controller. Especially, the PR controller is suitable for constant frequency operation in the grid-connected system.

Generally, the PI controller has drawbacks such as difficulty in removing the steady-state error in a stationary reference frame. The PR controller structure recently gained considerable popularity owing to its capability of eliminating steady-state error when regulating sinusoidal signals. Moreover, the easy implementation of a harmonic compensator without any adverse effect on the controller performance makes this controller well suited for grid-tied systems. Figure 6 shows block diagram of PR controller. The transfer function of the PR controller is defined below:

$$G_c(s) = K_{pi} + K_{ii} * \frac{s}{s^2 + \omega_f^2} \quad (4)$$

$$G_h(s) = \sum_{h=3,5,\dots} \frac{K_{ih}s}{s^2 + h\omega_f^2} \quad (5)$$

$$G_d(s) = \frac{1}{1 + 1.5T_s s} \quad (6)$$

Where K_{pi} and K_{ii} are the proportional and resonant gain, ω_f is the fundamental frequency, K_{ih} is the resonant gain at the n th order harmonic, h is the harmonic order, and T_s is the sampling period.

B. Deadbeat current Controller

In deadbeat control algorithm, state space model of the system is used to calculate the required reference value of current in order to reach the desired value for load current. It is defined as at the beginning of each sampling period collect input current of PWM rectifier, then predict input current value i_{ref} for next sampling instant through calculation.

Cost function $J = i - i_{ref}$ and our aim is to make sure $i - i^*$ for beginning of next sampling period.

In the generation of dead beat current control, reference current is calculated based on the fact that the predicted value of filter current should be same as reference value of filter current. Predicted value of filter current from, is given as following:

$$i_{fi}(k+1) = G_{11}V_{fc}(k) + G_{12}i_{fi}(k) + H_{11}\mu_c(k)$$

$$+H_{12}i_{ft}(k) \tag{7}$$

Cost function (J) is defined to minimize the error between predicted value of filter current and reference value of current. Predicted value of reference current is calculated using, second order Lagrange’s extrapolation:

$$i_{fi}(k + 1) = 3i_{fi} * (k) - 3i_{fi} * (k - 1) + i_{fi} * (k - 2) \tag{8}$$

The deadbeat current control equation is given by:

$$\mu_c * (k) = \frac{i_{fi} * (k + 1) - G_{11}V_{fc}(k) - G_{12}i_{fi}(k) - H_{12}i_{ft}(k)}{H_{11}} \tag{9}$$

Most known type of predictive controller use is dead beat controller .The model of the system is used to calculate the required reference value in order to reach the desired input signal. Modulation is then operated by comparing the carrier signal with the reference signal. The control for gate signal is generated from the different type of modulation.

The system parameters are listed in Table I.

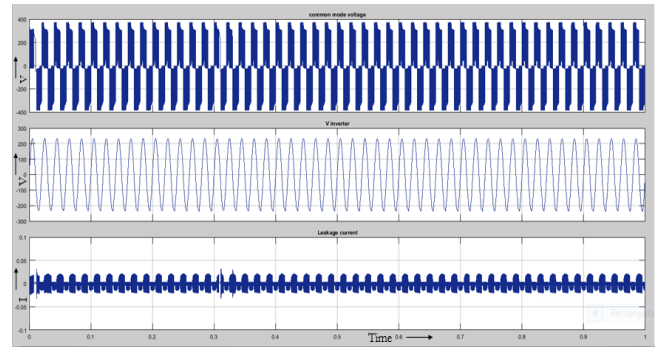
TABLE I
 SYSTEM PARAMETERS

PARAMETERS	Values
Input voltage	400 Vdc
Grid voltage/frequency	230V/50 Hz
Switching Frequency	20KHz
Filter Inductor	1 mH
L _{1A} ,L _{1B} ,L _{2A} ,L _{2B}	0.5 mH
Filter Inductor L _{g1} ,L _{g2}	75 nF
PVParasitic Capacitor	
C _{PV1} ,C _{PV2}	

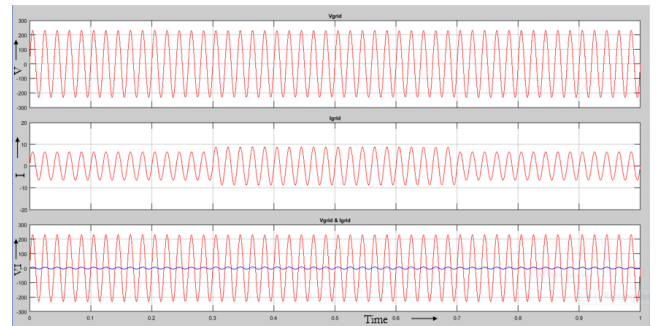
V.SIMULATION RESULTS

The simulation of transformerless PV inverters was performed using the MATLAB SOFTWARE . In this section, comparison of different parameters such as inverter voltage, common mode voltage (CMV), leakage current, grid voltage, grid current and the performance of proposed topology under changes of active and reactive power are discussed. PR current controller and Deadbeat current controller are analyzed to compare their control performances. In the simulation using PR controller, two cases are considered:

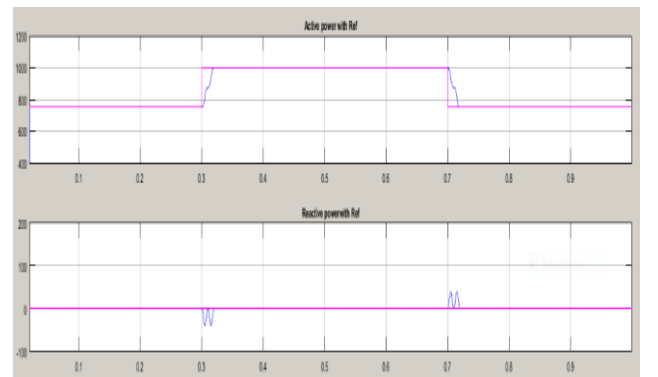
- 1) Case I: Performance of the proposed topology with PR Controller under the changes of active power only.
- 2) Case II: Performance of the proposed topology with PR Controller under the changes of active power and reactive power.



(a)

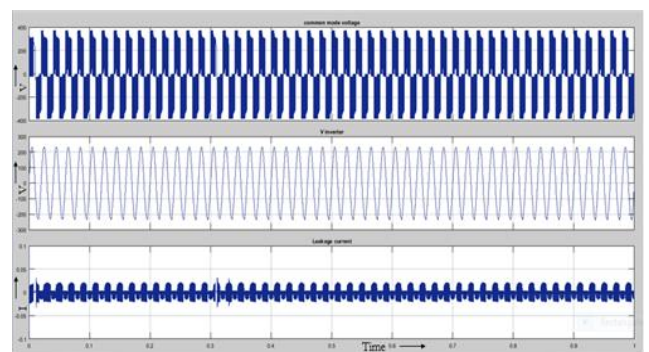


(b)



(c)

Fig. 7. Simulation results using PR controller with Active Power Control only:(a)Common mode voltage(v),Inverter voltage(v),Leakage current(A) (b) Grid Voltage(v),Grid Current (A)and (c)Active Power with Reference(W),Reactive Power with Reference(VAR)



(a)

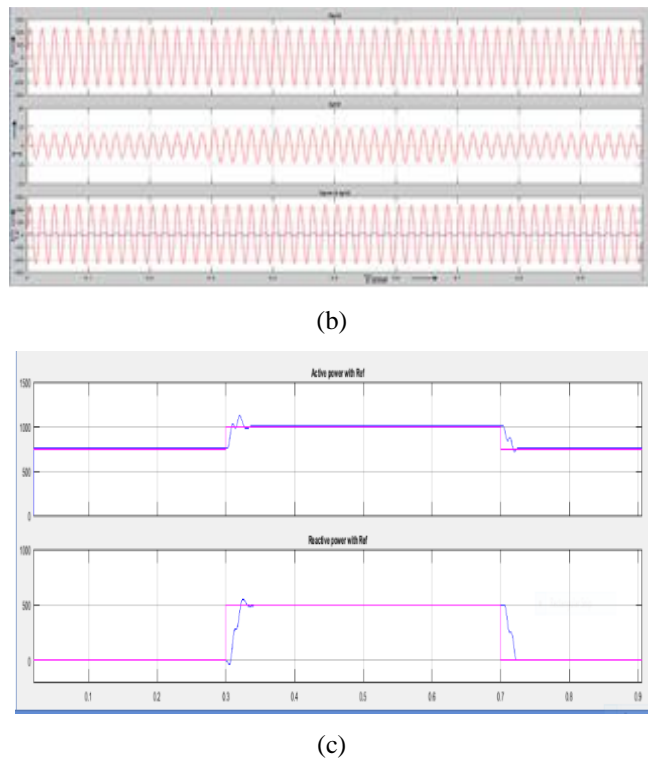


Fig. 8. Simulation results using PR controller with Active Power and Reactive Power Control:(a)Commonmode voltage(v),Inverter voltage(v),Leakage current(A) (b) Grid Voltage(v),Grid Current (A)and (c)Active Power with Reference(W),Reactive Power with Reference(VAR)

In the simulation using Deadbeat controller,Performance of the proposed topology under the changes of active power and reactive power is as follows:

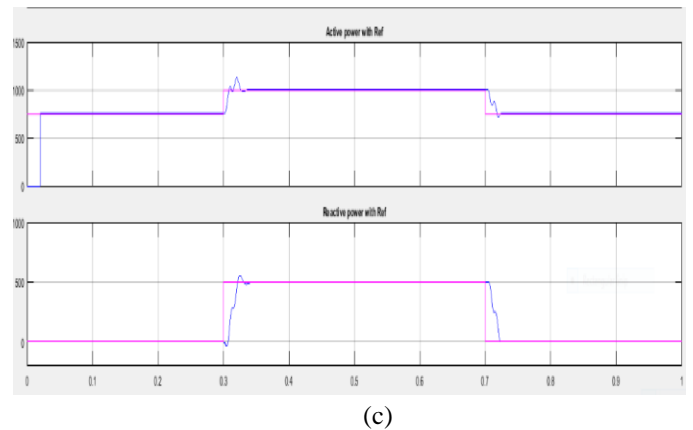
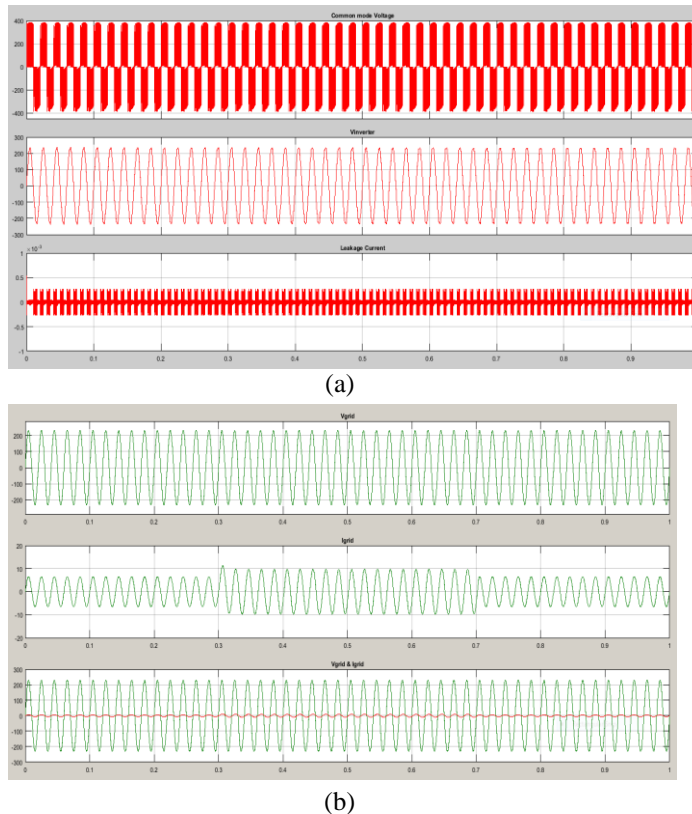


Fig. 9. Simulation results using Deadbeat controller with Active Power and Reactive Power Control:(a)Commonmodevoltage(v),Invertervoltage(v),Leakage current(A) (b) Grid Voltage(v),Grid Current (A)and (c)Active Power with Reference(W),Reactive Power with Reference(VAR)

Fig. 7 shows the simulated results of proposed topology using PR controller with active power control only. The waveforms of the grid voltage v_g and grid current i_g are pure sinusoidal and achieved unity power factor. In the response of the system when it is subject to 750W load to 1000W load step change, it can clearly be seen that fast and effective response under the changes of active power reference are achieved with the proposed topology. Therefore, it can be concluded that the proposed topology can inject real power into utility grid with low leakage current.

Fig. 8 shows the simulated results of proposed topology using PR controller with active power and reactive power control. In the waveform of grid current i_g and grid voltage v_g for inductive power generation, it is noticeable that no extra distortion is occurred in grid current when inject reactive power. In the response of the system when it is subject to 750W load to 1000W load step change, it can clearly be seen that fast and effective response under the changes of active and reactive reference power are achieved with the proposed topology. Therefore, it can be concluded that the proposed topology can inject reactive power into utility grid with low leakage current.

Fig. 9 shows the simulated results of proposed topology using Deadbeat controller with active power and reactive power control. The leakage current in deadbeat controller is very small compared to PR controller and its value is only 0.025 mA. Also, in deadbeat controller the active and reactive power controller track the reference power within two cycle of operation while in PR controller the active and reactive power controller track the reference power within four cycle of operation.

CONCLUSION

This study proposes a high efficiency transformerless Inverter for PV grid-connected power generation systems with reactive power control. The simulated results using PR controller and deadbeat controller are compared. Furthermore, the proposed topology has the following advantages:

1. The proposed topology has the ability to inject reactive power into utility grid with low harmonic distortion.

2. The CM mode voltage is kept constant during the whole grid period even when inject reactive power into utility grid; thus, the leakage current is well suppressed.

3. High efficiency can be achieved by employing super junction MOSFETs for all switches. For high inverter efficiency, higher switching frequency (20 KHz) operation is allowed to reduce the output current ripple and the size of passive components.

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